



# 2022-2023

# ANNUAL REPORT



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# Overview



**Committed to providing all students with opportunities to excel in academics, athletics and the arts.**

An education-oriented community with high academic expectations, the Half Hollow Hills Central School District is located in a residential area of 50,000 people in the central part of Long Island, approximately 40 miles from New York City. Providing for the education of approximately 7,250 students, the school district has five elementary schools, two middle schools and two high schools. Half Hollow Hills high schools are fully accredited by the New York State Department of Education.



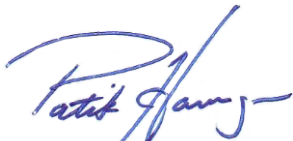
# Superintendent's Message

On behalf of the entire Half Hollow Hills Central School District of Huntington and Babylon, I am pleased to share with you the highlights of our 2022-2023 school year in this Annual Report.

The 2022-23 school year featured many outstanding accomplishments in academics, including National Merit Scholars, finalists and champions in math, computer science, business, economics, personal finance, world language, creative writing and science competitions. Many also received recognition for service learning projects that benefited our community and the world. Both of our high schools continue to be ranked in the top 1,000 high schools in the nation by U.S. News & World Report.

The Fine Arts program was distinguished with Scholar Artist Award winners, as well as numerous awards in art, music and theatre throughout the year. Our student athletes won or placed at several team and individual League and County championships.

During the 2023-2024 school year, we look forward to continuing to develop our strong culture of equity and excellence, while providing all of our students with opportunities to excel in academics, athletics and the arts.



Dr. Patrick Harrigan  
Superintendent of Schools



*We aspire to continue to develop the strong culture of equity and excellence within Half Hollow Hills, which translates directly to meaningful opportunities and outcomes for the children of the community.*



# Board of Education Trustees

The Board of Education is a seven-member volunteer board elected by district residents that is entrusted with the responsibility of developing policies under which the district is managed. The Board has all the powers and duties stated in the Education Law and other applicable New York State Laws.

## 2022-2023 Board of Education Trustees

David Kaston, President  
Diana Acampora, Vice President  
Betty DeSabato, Trustee  
Eric Geringswald, Trustee  
Stephanie Gurin, Trustee  
Adam Kleinberg, Trustee  
Michael Prywes, Trustee

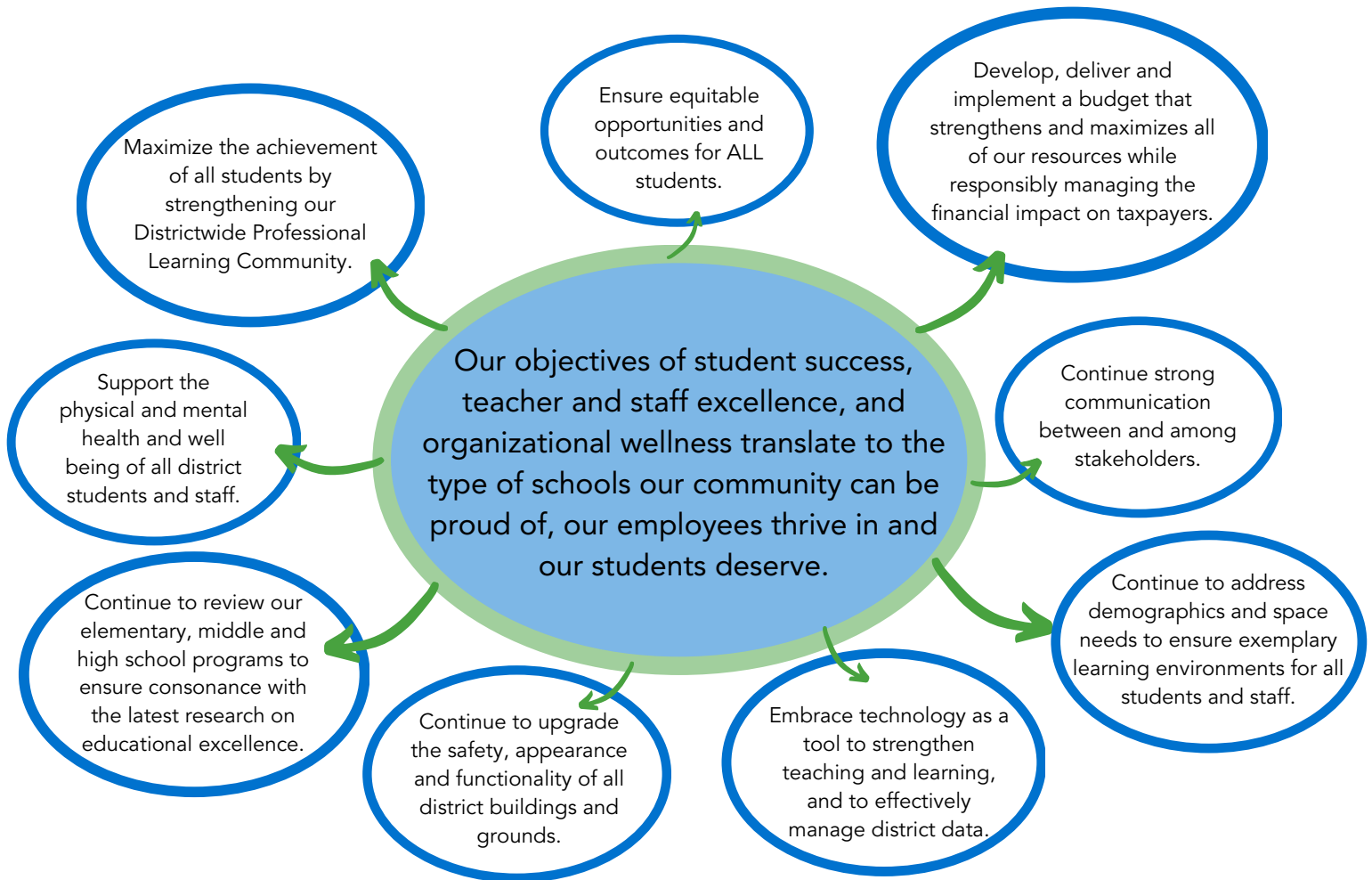
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## 2023-2024 Board of Education Trustees

Diana Acampora, President  
Stephanie Gurin, Vice President  
Nadia Bilal, Trustee  
Eric Geringswald, Trustee  
Adam Kleinberg, Trustee  
Dr. John Mathew, Trustee  
Michael Prywes, Trustee

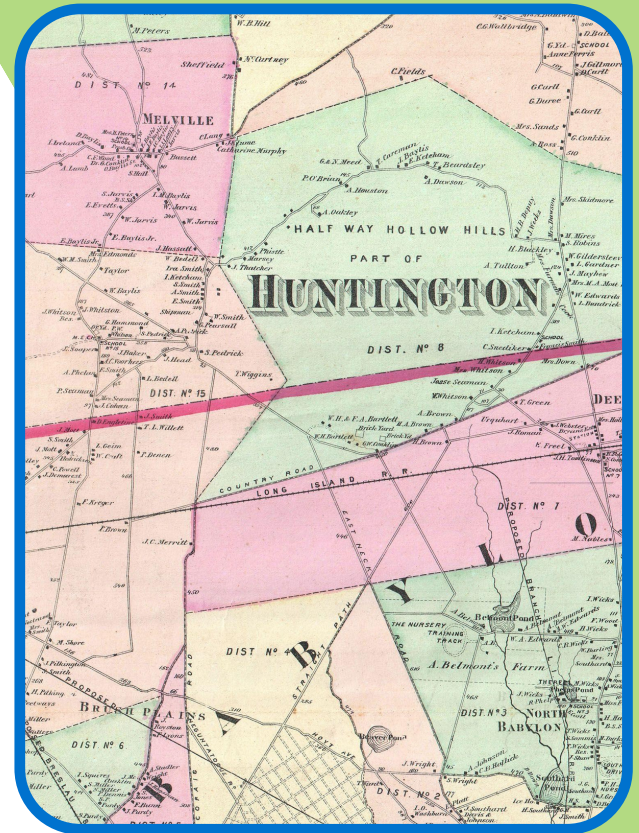


# Organizational Goals





# District Profile



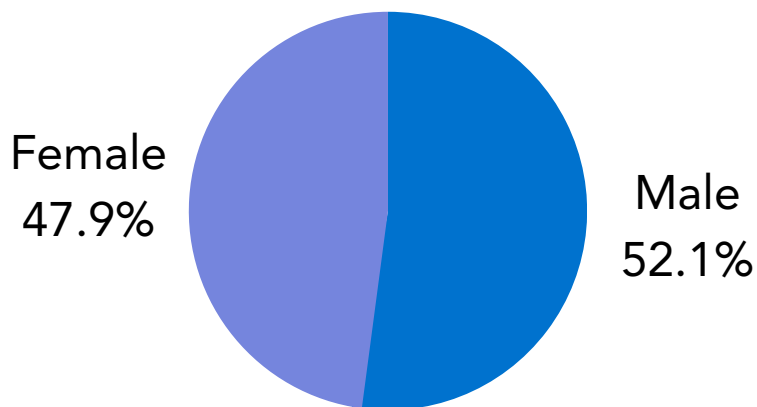
## History

Originally called Half Way Hollow Hills because it is found just about halfway between the Long Island Sound and the Atlantic Ocean, our school district merged with the Dix Hills School District in 1931, and then further enlarged by merging with the Upper Melville and Sweet Hollow School Districts in 1954.

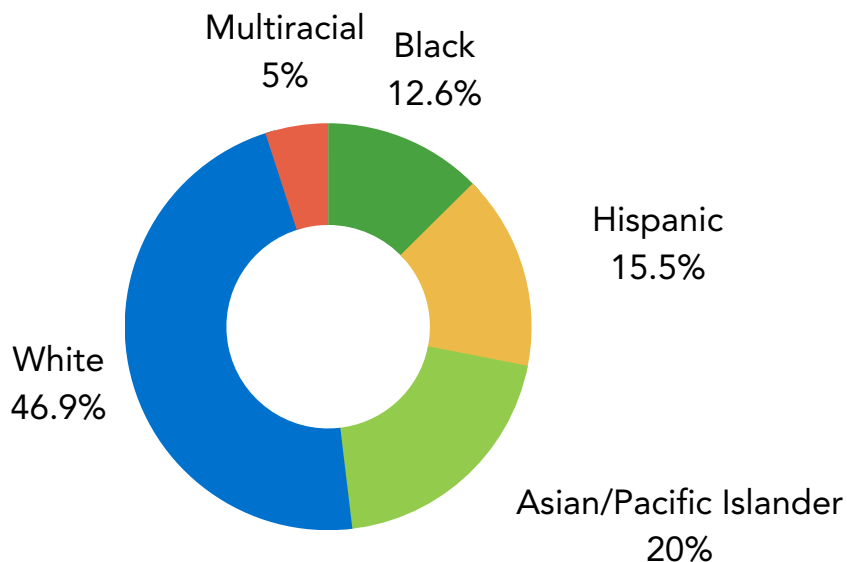
Today, the Half Hollow Hills Central School District of Huntington and Babylon operates nine schools serving students from Dix Hills, Melville, Wheatley Heights, and parts of Deer Park, Huntington, East Farmingdale and East Northport.

# Student Enrollment

## Gender



## Ethnicity



### Other Enrollment Data

Students with Disabilities: 22%  
 Economically Disadvantaged: 25%  
 English Language Learners: 3.4%



### Enrollment

High School East: 1,473  
 High School West: 1,055  
 West Hollow Middle School: 969  
 Candlewood Middle School: 719  
 Vanderbilt Elementary: 702  
 Signal Hill Elementary: 643  
 Otsego Elementary: 585  
 Paumanok Elementary: 572  
 Sunquam Elementary: 503  
 Total: 7,221

Data From NYSED BEDS Day - 10/5/2022



# District Leadership



## Central Administration Team

Dr. Patrick Harrigan  
Superintendent of Schools

Dr. Jeffery Woodberry  
Assistant Superintendent for Districtwide Administration

Ms. Diana Ketcham  
Assistant Superintendent for Elementary Education

Ms. Anne Marie Marrone Caliendo  
Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Facilities

Mr. John O'Farrell  
Assistant Superintendent for Secondary Education

# Faculty

Half Hollow Hills educators are dedicated, knowledgeable and highly skilled professionals who go beyond expectations to teach, inspire and nurture our students. We adhere to exceptionally high standards in selecting teachers and staff for our district. There are 730 teachers with an average of over 17 years of experience. Ninety-eight percent have earned Master's degrees or higher, 15 hold National Board Certification and there are nine New York State Master Teachers.

The staff regularly participates in professional development to strengthen their abilities and stay current with new and evolving strategies to better serve our student population. Nearly 35 of our teachers and administrators led over 100 professional development courses in 2022-2023.

Our teachers engage students in high-quality, meaningful and unique learning experiences which assist them in reaching their full potential. Teachers care about their students and exhibit this through all that they do in the classroom, during their non-teaching time and in extracurricular activities. The professional staff in our district provides an exceptional learning environment for students and makes Half Hollow Hills a great place to learn and work.





# Academics



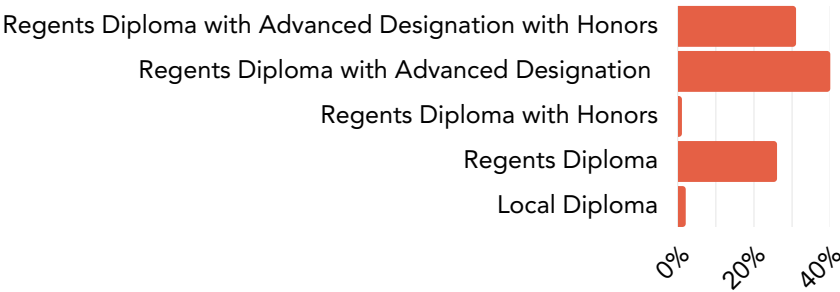
The Half Hollow Hills K-12 program is designed to meet the individual needs of all students. Our diverse population includes many students at various levels of educational development. Our high schools offer strong academic programs, including 29 Advanced Placement courses, 25 Honors and/or college-level courses offered in collaboration with Stony Brook University (ACE Program) and Long Island University (High School Scholars Program). Students have an opportunity to earn the AP Capstone Diploma™ or the AP Seminar and Research Certificate™ based on AP exam performance.

“Project Lead the Way” Engineering courses sponsored by the Rochester Institute of Technology are available. The “Senior Experience” program, available for a select group of students, combines English 12 and Government/Economics into a Humanities-based curriculum. Incorporated into this program is a required year-long professional internship focused on career exploration. A select group of students participates in our competitive Independent Research Programs, culminating in various national events & competitions. Many students enroll in Independent Studies in World Languages, including Arabic, Cantonese, Japanese, Hebrew, Hindi, Greek, Russian, and Urdu.

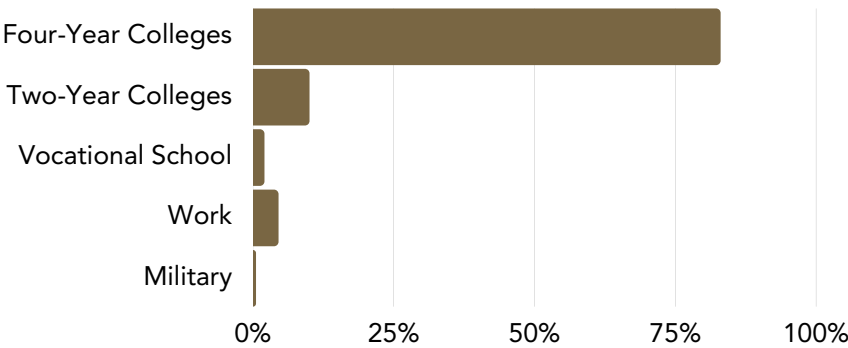
Several students participate in the BOCES Wilson Tech Program during their junior and/or senior year. Others audition to participate in the BOCES Long Island High School for the Arts School, available to juniors and seniors. Both high schools offer extensive extracurricular club and organizational activities as well as interscholastic athletic programs, intramural sports, and community service opportunities.

# Graduation Data

## Graduation Degree Data



## Post-Graduation Plans



### Individual Accomplishments

- 2 National Merit Scholars
- 11 National Merit Finalists
- 11 National Merit Semifinalists
- 29 National Merit Commended Students
- 15 National African-American Recognition Program Scholars
- 8 National Hispanic Recognition Program Scholars
- 1 Coca-Cola Scholarship Winner

### AP Performance

- 21 AP Seminar & Research Certificates
- 65 AP Capstone Diplomas
- 248 AP Scholars with Distinction
- 91 AP Scholars with Honor
- 200 AP Scholars



# Extracurricular Activities

Half Hollow Hills believes that participation in activities outside the classroom plays an important role in our students' academic, social and emotional development.

Our goal is to provide a variety of opportunities at every grade level so that students can participate in school life, have fun and enhance their interests and abilities.



## Elementary Activities Included:

- African American Club
- Archery Club
- Art Club
- Arts and Crafts
- Board Game Club
- Chess Club
- Coding Club
- Dance Club
- Drama Club
- Drawing Club
- Engineering Club
- Foreign Language Club
- Game Club
- Garden Club
- Imagination Playground
- Intramurals
- Kindness Club
- Lunch Club
- Media Arts Club
- Musical Stories
- Newspaper Club
- One World Youth Club
- School Store
- Stay and Play Club
- Storytime Club
- Student Council
- Yoga

## Secondary Activities Included:

- African American Student Organization
- American Computer Science League
- Bee Team
- Chess Club
- Environmental Club
- E-Sports/Computer Club
- FBLA/Business Honor Society
- Film & Podcasting Club
- Gay Straight Alliance
- Glamour Gals
- Key Club
- Mathletes
- Muslim Student Organization
- Newspaper
- One World Youth Club
- Peer Aids Educators
- Photojournalism Club
- Rising Stars
- Robotics Club
- SADD
- Science Olympiads
- Step Team
- Teen Animal Protectors
- Women in Science and Engineering
- Yearbook
- Yoga

# Athletics

Half Hollow Hills offers our middle and high school students many opportunities to participate in sports. Our teams are very competitive and often succeed at the local, regional and state levels. We have 55 Varsity Teams, 30 Junior Varsity Teams, 42 Modified Sports Teams, and both high schools were named 2022-2023 NYSPHSAA Schools of Excellence. To receive a School of Excellence Award, at least 75% of a school's varsity teams must qualify and receive the Scholar-Athlete team award.

## High School East

- Girls Tennis: Suffolk County Large School Finalist
- Football: Suffolk County Big 4 Champions
- 16 Scholar Athlete Teams

## High School West

- Boys Cross Country: 1st in Divisional Championship
- Boys Soccer: Suffolk County Finalist
- Girls Volleyball: Undefeated League V Champions, Suffolk County Finalist
- Boys Indoor Winter Track & Field: League IV Champions & Small School Champions
- Boys Spring Track & Field: Undefeated League V Champions
- 16 Scholar Athlete Teams

## Combined

- HHH Girls Swimming & Diving: Suffolk County Finalist
- HHH Boys Swimming & Diving: Undefeated League II Record
- HHH Boys Fencing: League I Champions
- HHH Girls Fencing: Co-League Champions
- HHH Boys Badminton: Undefeated League I Champions
- HHH Flag Football: Suffolk County Champions
- 14 Combined Scholar Athlete Teams





# Fine Arts



## Theatre Programs:

- Drama clubs are offered from grades 5-12, and each year there are two musical productions at each middle school, as well as one drama and one musical production at each high school.
- Hills on Stage is offered for all elementary 5th graders and brings together more than 95 students from all five elementary buildings.
- Recent productions have included The Sound of Music, Seussical Jr., James and the Giant Peach, Mean Girls, She Kills Monsters, The Man Who Came to Dinner, Guys and Dolls, and Aladdin Jr.



## Art Programs:

- High school art classes are offered in all of the traditional arts, as well as media arts, photography, architecture and fashion design.
- Annual art shows are displayed at the elementary, middle and high school levels.
- Student art is exhibited at Huntington Camera Club, Long Island's Best: Young Artists at The Heckscher Museum, Suffolk County Art Leaders Association All-County Art and Senior Scholarship Show, Huntington Arts Council.
- Scholastic Art Awards – 7 Gold Key, 4 Silver Key.
- Long Island's Best at The Heckscher Museum, the Huntington Tulip Festival, Huntington Arts Council, Huntington Camera Club and Art League of Long Island.
- Artwork displayed at the Capital Building in Washington DC by Congressional Art Contest winner.
- Student artists have won numerous scholarships and contests, both locally and nationally, including, top scholarship winners at the Suffolk County Art Leaders Association All-County Exhibit.
- 2 Long Island Alliance Scholar-Artist award winners.



## Music Programs:

- More than 2,500 students participate yearly in performance ensembles that include concert bands, orchestras, choirs, wind ensemble, jazz bands, vocal jazz, a cappella groups and guitar ensembles.
- Students have access to a full recording studio, broadcast studio, and music recording and production technology courses.
- Honored with the "Best Communities for Music Education" designation from The NAMM Foundation for our outstanding commitment to music education.
- 10 All-State Musicians.
- 2 All-National Musicians.
- 4 All-County Jazz Musicians.
- 7 All-Eastern Musicians.
- 35 NYSCAME High School All-County Musicians.
- 119 SCMEA All-County Musicians, Grades 5-10.
- 55 LISFA Musicians, Grades 5-10.
- 2 Long Island Alliance Scholar-Artist award winners.
- Hills East Guitar Ensemble selected to perform at the All-Eastern Conference.
- Otsego Elementary School awarded the 2023 School of Excellence award by SCMEA.

# Programs for Students with Disabilities

Half Hollow Hills provides special education and related services to meet the needs of students who are identified as having a disability. Our programs and services are designed to ensure that children with disabilities receive appropriate and equal opportunities for their educational growth. We are proud to be able to offer a myriad of opportunities along the continuum of a student's development. This continuum includes related services, resource room, integrated co-teaching, special classes, as well as out-of-district options. Each of these opportunities is available to students in grades K-12. Our district prominently features programs for students with autism and other developmental disabilities within our in-district classes. These classes allow students to challenge the curriculum and grow according to their individual educational needs.



## The Hills Academy

*The Hills Academy is an in-district program for students grades 8-12. It is a program designed for students of average to above average intelligence who possess social/emotional issues which impact their ability to meet with success in high school. Students are in classes taught by dual-certified special education and content area teachers, follow the Half Hollow Hills academic curriculum, work towards a New York State Regents or Advanced Regents diploma and have an opportunity to challenge the curriculum to earn honors status for their core academic classes.*

*Within the program are two mental health professionals (a school psychologist and a social worker) who provide individual and group counseling, weekly communication with the families, home visits and are available at any time a student feels the need to speak with a mental health professional. The Hills Academy staff identify personal goals with each student that are worked on in conjunction with the tenets of the program to build the skills and strategies needed to return to the larger high school setting.*

*The ultimate goal is to provide students with the tools, resources and skill-set to be successful; we want our students to attend school regularly and help to develop the skills/tools to transition successfully back to high school. In this safe, structured environment, students will gain academic and social skills as well as develop self-discipline to return to their respective high schools.*



# English as a New Language Program



In Half Hollow Hills, approximately 40 home languages represent the diverse population in the ENL (English as a New Language) program. Our 18 ENL teachers service approximately 350 students in the district with varying proficiency levels of the English language. As a department, they work with students and their families, helping them adjust to our district and the community. Our ENL teachers work with students in their integrated classrooms and in a stand-alone setting to best meet their individual needs based on the CR Part 154 regulations. Professional development has been provided to general classroom teachers to educate them about the English Language Learners in the district and strategies to help them provide appropriate instruction during their transitional period of learning English. ENL teachers continually collaborate as a department and with classroom and special area teachers to ensure that their students are doing well academically, socially and emotionally.

# Service Learning

Half Hollow Hills encourages all of our students to participate in service learning programs to understand and experience the importance of volunteering while building a life-long love of giving back to their community.

These initiatives help develop leadership skills and well-rounded young adults while benefiting important causes.

## 2022-2023 Service Learning Programs

- Students Rebuild Challenge
- Cody L. Byrnes Memorial Foundation Super Hero T-shirt Day
- "Kids Need More" Fundraisers
- Teen Promise Fundraisers
- Childhood Cancer Month Fundraisers
- Valentines for Veterans Cards
- Cards for local Nursing Homes on Mother's Day and Father's Day
- Breast Cancer Walks
- Hurricane Relief Drives
- Holiday Toy Drives

**\$429,050**

Raised in matching dollars for Students Rebuild Challenge

**42,905**

Students Rebuild Challenge projects submitted





# Instructional Technology



The Half Hollow Hills Central School District firmly believes in the importance of information literacy as a vital skill for 21st century citizens. Information literacy encompasses the ability to not only locate, analyze, manage and present information but also to adapt rapidly to the ever-changing landscape of available information.

To equip students with the necessary skills to thrive in the digital era, the district emphasizes the integration of technology throughout the curriculum. One of the key initiatives is the 1:1 Device Program, which ensures that every student has access to their own mobile computing device. This program enables students to become proficient in using technology resources they are likely to encounter in their educational journey and future careers.

A comprehensive technology curriculum is in place to guide students in acquiring essential digital skills. Through structured lessons and hands-on experiences, students develop proficiency in utilizing a wide range of technological tools effectively.

The district also offers a wealth of rich digital resources that complement and enhance classroom instruction. These resources include online databases, digital libraries, interactive educational materials and multimedia content, allowing students to engage with information in dynamic and diverse ways.

To further support interactive and collaborative learning, instructional spaces are equipped with integrated digital whiteboards. These interactive displays facilitate dynamic presentations, real-time annotations and encourage student engagement during lessons.

By combining the 1:1 Device Program, comprehensive technology curriculum, rich digital resources and integrated digital whiteboards, the Half Hollow Hills Central School District strives to foster information literacy and technological proficiency in its students. Through these initiatives, students are better prepared to navigate the digital landscape, critically evaluate information and become well-rounded, adaptable citizens ready to thrive in the fast-paced, technology-driven world.

# Communications

Half Hollow Hills is dedicated to continual and transparent communication with all of our stakeholders. We engage with them by providing valuable and necessary information through a wide variety of tools and channels, while telling the stories of our students and schools. District communications are distributed using the following methods:

- Parent Portal and Student Portal
- Learning Management System (LMS)
- Automated calling and email system
- District and school websites
- Social media (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and LinkedIn)
- Local media including print, TV, digital and radio in the Long Island and Metro-NY markets
- Community engagement via meetings, guest speakers and direct communication
- Electronic newsletters and printed communication, district-wide and within individual schools





# Buildings & Grounds

The Half Hollow Hills Central School District maintained 15 buildings in 2022-2023 including one administration building, five elementary schools, two middle schools, two high schools, a transportation building, a natatorium and a maintenance building. These buildings encompass over 1.5 million square feet sitting on over 300 acres.

In 2022-2023, the district was also landlord to four tenants in two closed buildings, maximizing revenue from the unneeded space.



## 2022-2023 Capital Project Highlights

- Speakers added to public address systems in all buildings
- Oil storage tanks replaced at Otsego Elementary School and Paumanok Elementary School
- Candlewood Middle School front facade cleaned and sealed
- West Hollow Middle School greenhouse replaced
- High School East turf field replaced
- High School East student bathrooms near cafeteria renovated
- High School East windows replaced in west wing
- High School East floors repaired in music wing

# Transportation

The Half Hollow Hills Transportation Department is committed to safely and efficiently transporting our approximately 7,250 students to and from school every day. The district has its own fleet of buses and contracts many other buses from a private bus company in the local area to transport students to and from school.

In 2022-2023 there were 340 bus routes in our district with approximately 8,200 bus stops each day, equaling 1,461,420 bus stops each year. Transportation was also provided for over 880 athletic events and almost 900 field trips in 2022-2023. Our buses travel over 1,029,600 miles each year.

The Transportation Department's greatest strength is its dedicated staff who ensure the safe transportation of every student, every day.





# Food Services

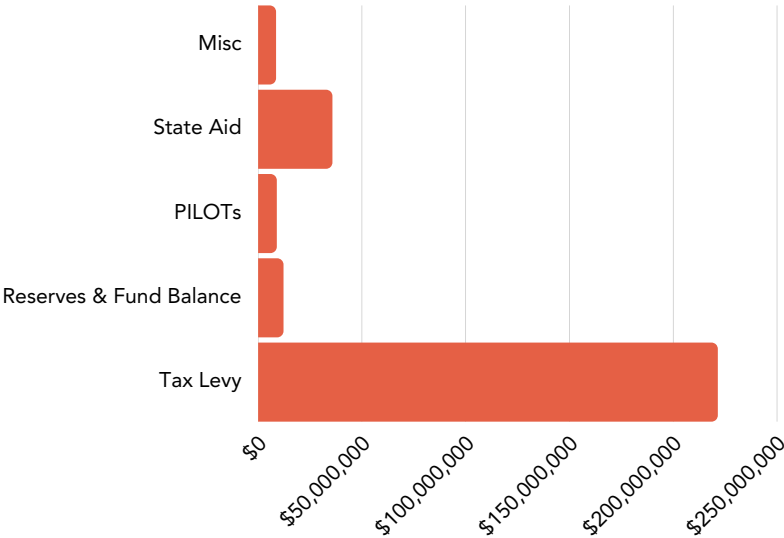


**Half Hollow Hills recognizes that a nutritious, well-balanced and reasonably portioned meal is essential for student wellness. The Food Services Department serves an average of over 340 breakfasts per day (or more than 60,000 per year) and an average of over 2,775 lunches per day (or over 490,000 per year). Our food service staff cares deeply about the children they serve, and demonstrate this daily through their hard work and dedication.**

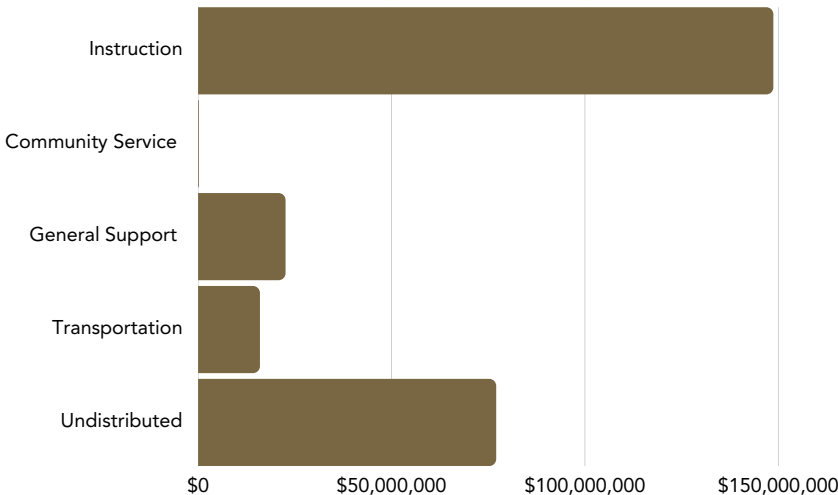
Our Food Services Program is actively engaged in the New York State farm-to-school movement. There are many benefits to implementing a thriving farm-to-school program, most notably the increase in unprocessed and minimally processed food items which tend to be healthier options for students. The goal of farm-to-school is to support local farmers and producers, as well as provide a stable market for our state's farmers and producers. The commitment of the Food Services department in our district to farm-to-school gives our students the opportunity to be a part of an ever-growing movement to support and consume local foods.

# 2022-2023 Financials

## 2022-2023 Revenue Overview



## 2022-2023 Expenditures Overview



The leadership of the Half Hollow Hills Central School District is committed to responsible stewardship of the funds it receives from all sources, including taxpayers, as it administers the annual budget.

We continually scrutinize spending to ensure every dollar is used appropriately, always with a focus on student learning. In 2022-2023, the pre-audit total budget expenditures were \$264 million with over 83% percent budgeted to be directly spent on instruction and learning.

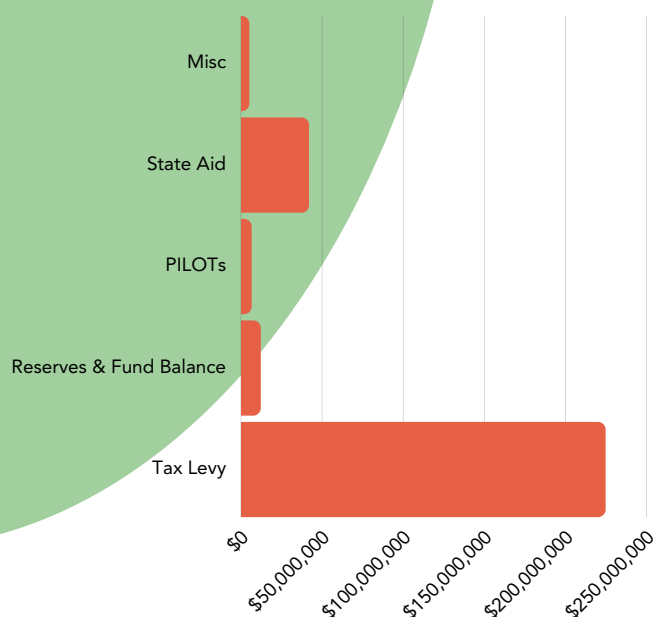
# 2023-2024 Financials



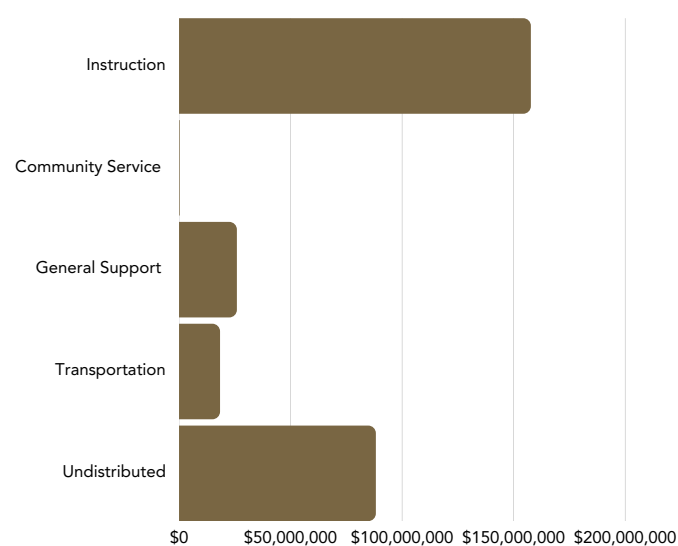
The 2023-2024 budget for the Half Hollow Hills Central School District was developed to provide all the programs and services students need to excel, while also allowing for investments in our facilities.

The 2023-2024 budget adheres to the property tax levy cap formula with a total budget increase of 3.43%, enabling many new and expanded opportunities for students.

## 2023-2024 Anticipated Revenue



## 2023-2024 Anticipated Expenditures







# Half Hollow Hills

CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT



## Half Hollow Hills Central Office Administration

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